



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

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GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES THE CREATION OF 287 JOBS IN UNION COUNTY
Job Development Investment Grant Helps Bring Carolina Classifieds.Com to Monroe

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today announced that Carolina Classifieds.Com, a printing company, will invest \$8.76 million to open a printing and distribution plant in Monroe. The facility, which was made possible in part by a Job Development Investment Grant, will create 287 jobs during the next four years.

“North Carolina provides a business climate that attracts new and growing companies such as Carolina Classifieds,” Easley said. “We will continue to make smart investments in education, workforce training and other critical areas to ensure North Carolina businesses can successfully compete in the global economy.”

The company plans to move into the Schrader-Bridgeport International facility in Monroe and produce a weekly magazine, *Carolina Money Saver*. It will be distributed throughout North and South Carolina. Production, distribution, customer service and the company’s headquarters all will be served from this location.

Renovation of the facility is set to start shortly with completion projected for October 2007. The new jobs will be a mix of sales, management, printing press operators and distribution positions. While individual wages will vary by job function, the overall average annual wage for the new jobs will be \$33,628, not including benefits, which is more than the Union County average of \$31,400 without benefits.

“We are extremely proud to be new corporate citizens of North Carolina,” said company CEO Scott Patterson. “As we witnessed first hand during the sometimes arduous and tedious site selection process, North Carolina, especially the greater Charlotte region, has a deserved reputation for its highly educated, skilled, and motivated workforce. We are looking forward to partnering with this talented workforce in the immediate future.”

The state’s Economic Investment Committee earlier today voted unanimously to award a JDIG grant to the company to facilitate this project. Under the terms of the JDIG agreement approved by the committee, a 9-year grant will be established. During the life of the grant, the N.C. Department of Commerce estimates the project will:

- Generate a cumulative gross state product value of about \$221.83 million;
- Produce a positive, cumulative net state revenue impact of \$5.4 million; and
- Contribute \$628,000 to the state’s Industrial Development Fund for infrastructure improvements in rural and economically distressed areas of North Carolina.

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